

*REMARKS**Summary of Action*

Applicants thank the Examiner for the careful search and consideration expressed in the subject Office Action. Claims 1-20 were previously pending in this application. Many of the claims were rejected under either 35 U.S.C. §102 or §103 based on various items of cited art. However, it was stated that claims 9 and 10 would be allowable if rewritten to eliminate their dependence upon rejected base claims. Applicants appreciatively acknowledge this indication of allowable subject matter.

Amendments—Claims 1-10

In keeping with the suggestion set forth in the Office Action, independent claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of claims 9 and 10. Accordingly, claims 9 and 10 have been cancelled. Claims 1, 4, and 6 have been amended for clarity as well. No new matter is added nor new issues raised by any of the foregoing amendments.

It is respectfully submitted that claims 1-8 are now patentable for the same reasons expressed in the Office Action with respect to claims 9 and 10, and favorable reconsideration is requested in light of these amendments.

Amendments—Claims 18-20

Further in keeping with the suggestion set forth in the Office Action, independent claim 18 has also been amended to incorporate the subject matter of claims 9 and 10. No new matter is added or new issues raised by any of the foregoing amendments.

It is respectfully submitted that claims 18-20 are now patentable for the same reasons expressed in the Office Action with respect to claims 9 and 10, and favorable reconsideration is requested in light of these amendments.

Amendments—Claims 11-17 (New Claims 21-28)

Claims 11-17 have been cancelled because of numerous clerical issues and have been replaced by new claims 21-28. These new claims are essentially computer-readable medium formatted claims that are similar in subject matter to the method claims 1-8. It is respectfully submitted that claims 21-28 are patentable for the same reasons expressed above with respect to claims 1-8.

Conclusion

Applicants respectfully submit that the patent application is in condition for allowance. If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of the subject application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,



Phillip M. Pippenger, Reg. No. 46,055
LEYDIG, VOIT & MAYER, LTD.
Two Prudential Plaza, Suite 4900
180 North Stetson Avenue
Chicago, Illinois 60601-6731
(312) 616-5600 (telephone)
(312) 616-5700 (facsimile)

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